



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
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CYPRIPEDIUM PASSERINUM **SPARROW'S-EGG LADY'S-SLIPPER**

Sparrow's-egg Lady's-slipper is a perennial with leafy stems reaching up to 35 cm high and arising from slender, creeping rhizomes. The 3-5 broadly lance-shaped leaves reach up to 15 cm long and clasp the stem. Foliage is covered with long, soft hairs and is usually somewhat sticky. The one or two flowers are subtended by a leafy bract which is longer than the inflorescence. The sepals are green and 10-16 mm long, and the upper is longer than the lower two. The petals are white; the lower is pouch-like with purple spots on the inside, and the other two resemble the sepals but are shorter. The erect capsule is ovoid. Flowering in late June-early August.

This species can be distinguished from our other white lady's slipper, *CYPRIPEDIUM MONTANUM*, by the sepals that are shorter than the slipper-like petal and not wavy or twisted.